

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 218898
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00
EB-08 OMB-01 CAB-02 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00
FAA-00 /071 R

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EUR/RPM-MR.WIWERS
-----079745 131857Z /47

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK IMMEDIATE
SECDEF WASHDC
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA
USNMR SHAPE BE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 218898

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, IC

SUBJECT: ICELANDIC DEMARCHE TO SYG LUNS ON US ASSISTANCE
FOR CIVILIAN AIR TERMINAL CONSTRUCTION

REF: USNATO 8678

1. DEPARTMENT AGREES IN PRINCIPLE THAT CONCEPT OF BROADEN-
ING FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION OF SELECTED NORTHERN TIER
ALLIES DIRECTLY BENEFITING FROM KEFLAVIK IS VALID. HOWEVER,
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ICELANDERS ARE ALMOST CERTAIN TO LEARN OF DISCREET IN-
QUIRIES SOLICITING BROADER FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION IN
ICELAND FACILITIES AND ICELANDIC REACTION WOULD BE MOST
DIFFICULT TO PREDICT. GIVEN ICELANDIC TRADITIONS OF FIERCE
NATIONAL PRIDE AND INDEPENDENCE, A NEGATIVE REACTION,
WHICH COULD PROVE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE, IS A DISTINCT
POSSIBILITY. DEPARTMENT THEREFORE PREFERS THAT US MISSION

SUGGEST THAT SECRETARY GENERAL DISCUSS QUESTION OF SELECTED ALLIED PARTICIPATION WITH PRIME MINISTER HALLGRIMSSON OR FOREIGN MINISTER AGUSTSSON BEFORE PROCEEDING FURTHER.

2. DEPARTMENT MOST CONCERNED THAT NO ACTION BE TAKEN UNTIL FOREIGN MINISTER AGUSTSSON COMPLETES A RATHER SENSITIVE OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES SEPTEMBER 19-24.

3. QUESTION OF HOW ALLIES MIGHT PLAY A MORE ACTIVE, EDUCATIONAL ROLE IN CONVINCING ICELANDERS OF VALUE OF CONTINUED NATO PARTICIPATION APPEARS TO BE MUCH LESS CONTROVERSIAL ALTHOUGH NO LESS VALID THAN FINANCIAL ASPECT. HERE TOO, HOWEVER, WE WOULD HOPE THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL COULD DELAY EXPLORING THIS FURTHER UNTIL THE COMPLETION OF FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON.

4. THIS IS JOINT STATE-DEFENSE MESSAGE. VANCE

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /013 R

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 218898

FOL REPEAT STATE 218898 ACTION NATO INFO REYKJAVIK
SECDEF CINCLANT USLOSACLANT NORFOLK USNMR SHAPE USCINCEUR VAIHIGEN
CTD 13 SEP.

QUOTE

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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